

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (new): A back-lighted control and protection device for LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) which comprises a light source and a drive circuitry generating a high-voltage supply to said light source for illuminating a backplate of the LCD, wherein said back-lighted control and protection device comprises:

a light source detection unit for detecting a light intensity of said light source, wherein said light source detection unit sends out a cut off signal when said light source detection unit detects said light intensity of said light source below a predetermined light level; and

a protection circuit electrically communicating with said light source detection unit and arranged in such a manner that when said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from said light source detection unit, said protection circuit is arranged for simultaneously deactivating said drive circuitry to cut off said high-voltage supply to said light source.

Claim 8 (new): The back-lighted control and protection device, as recited in claim 7, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.

Claim 9 (new): The back-lighted control and protection device, as recited in claim 7, wherein said light source detection unit comprises a plurality of sensor units for communicating with lamps of said light source respectively, such that each of said sensor units is arranged for detecting said light intensity of said corresponding lamp of said light source.

Claim 10 (new): The back-lighted control and protection device, as recited in claim 8, wherein said light source detection unit comprises a plurality of sensor units for communicating with lamps of said light source respectively, such that each of said sensor units is arranged for detecting said light intensity of said corresponding lamp of said light source.

Claim 11 (new): The back-lighted control and protection device, as recited in claim 9, wherein said sensor units are electrically connected to said protection circuit such that said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from one of said sensor units for deactivating said drive circuitry when said respective lamp is malfunctioned.

Claim 12 (new): The back-lighted control and protection device, as recited in claim 10, wherein said sensor units are electrically connected to said protection circuit such that said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from one of said sensor units for deactivating said drive circuitry when said respective lamp is malfunctioned.

Claim 13 (new): A back-lighted assembly for LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) having a backplate, comprising:

- a light source;

- a drive circuitry generating a high-voltage supply to said light source for illuminating said backplate of said LCD; and

- a back-lighted control and protection device, which comprises:

- a light source detection unit detecting a light intensity of said light source, wherein said light source detection unit sends out a cut off signal when said light source detection unit detects said light intensity of said light source below a predetermined light level; and

- a protection circuit electrically communicating with said light source detection unit and arranged in such a manner that when said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from said light source detection unit, said protection circuit simultaneously deactivates said drive circuitry to cut off said high-voltage supply to said light source.

Claim 14 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 13, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of lamps for illuminating said backplate, wherein said protection circuit is electrically coupled to said lamps in series connection.

Claim 15 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 13, wherein said light source comprises a plurality of lamps for illuminating said backplate, wherein said protection circuit is electrically coupled to said lamps in parallel connection.

Claim 16 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 14, wherein said light source detection unit comprises a plurality of sensor units electrically connected to said protection circuit, wherein each of said sensor units detects said light intensity of said corresponding lamp of said light source such that said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from one of said sensor units to deactivate said drive circuitry when said respective lamp is malfunctioned.

Claim 17 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 15, wherein said light source detection unit comprises a plurality of sensor units electrically connected to said protection circuit, wherein each of said sensor units detects said light intensity of said corresponding lamp of said light source such that said protection circuit receives said cut off signal from one of said sensor units to deactivate said drive circuitry when said respective lamp is malfunctioned.

Claim 18 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 13, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.

Claim 19 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 14, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.

Claim 20 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 15, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.

Claim 21 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 16, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.

Claim 22 (new): The back-lighted assembly, as recited in claim 17, wherein said light source detection unit sends out said cut off signal to said protection circuit when said light source is malfunctioned that no light is generated therefrom.